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OXC-1452
Copy of 3

16 March 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, DPD

SUBJECT : The Case for a Weather Staff Section in DPD

1. It is not my intent to play down the importance of the operational weather briefings. However, I feel that the other staff functions performed by this section need to be reviewed so that their significance may also be realized. Since most of these other functions have been conducted without direct contact with the Acting Chief, he has had little opportunity to be aware of them.

2. The following are examples of recent weather section activities which I believe would be considered as "staff" functions:

a. Prepared detailed analyses of weather factors in the CORONA program.

b. Arranged for studies of high level winds and temperatures to be prepared by the AWS Climatic Center, and wrote a summation of these studies for use by DPD planning personnel and equipment contractors.

c. Prepared climatological studies for the following areas: Guatemala, Nicaragua, Cuba, China, Laos, Indonesia and Central Africa.

d. Visited Lockheed Aircraft Company, Kelly Johnson, to discuss environment factors related to the OXCART program.

e. Visited [] to investigate facilities and requirements for weather support activities at that location.

f. Visited the Global Weather Central at Offutt Air Force Base to coordinate weather support procedures with that unit.

g. Prepared a study of the quantity and quality of the weather forecasts provided to DPD by the Global Weather Central.

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h. Briefed the Comdr on meteorological factors in the CORONA program.

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3. While functions such as the above can be, and have been, performed without the weather officer being a fully recognized member of the staff, I believe that full recognition would make the position much more effective.

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Chief, Weather Staff, DPD

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DPD/OPS



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